



WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2009



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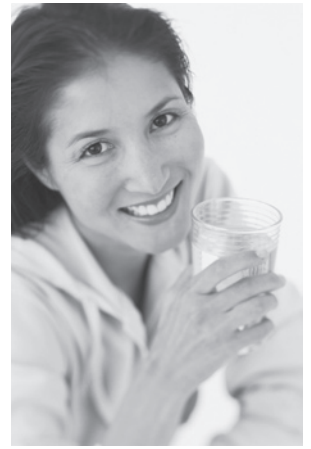
Meeting the Challenge

We are once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2009. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you.

As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please share with us your thoughts about the information in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Al Purvis, Chief Water Operator, at (352) 728-9845 or visit our Web site at www.leesburgflorida.gov.



Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city commission meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet beginning at 5 p.m. on the third floor of City Hall the second and fourth Monday of each month. City Hall is located at 501 W. Meadow Street in Leesburg.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our source of supply for both the City of Leesburg Main and East water systems is ground water taken from the Floridan Aquifer within the Oklawaha Watershed. In both water systems, chlorine in gas form is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.)

The City of Leesburg Main Water Treatment Plant has eight deep wells ranging in depth from 250 feet to 950 feet, located within the city limits. The City of Leesburg has 3.7 million gallons of storage capacity with more than 232 miles of distribution water mains. The main water system serves 9,880 meter connections representing an estimated population of 34,580 customers.

The East system, consisting of the Mall and Airport Water Treatment Plants, presently has two deep wells ranging in depth from 366 feet to 555 feet. The East system has 160,000 gallons of storage capacity with more than 85 miles of distribution water mains. This system serves 2,669 meter connections representing an estimated population of 9,342 customers.

To learn about your watershed on the Internet, go to the U.S. EPA's Surf Your Watershed Web site at www.epa.gov/surf.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline.



Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhome) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a Web site (www.dep.state.fl.us) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Florida, including valuable information about our watershed.

Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.

Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.

Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Water lawns only when needed and only on your designated days. No watering is allowed between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Check to ensure that your rain sensor device and your automatic irrigation timers are working properly. Position sprinklers so that you are watering the lawn and plants, not the sidewalks and streets.

Lead and Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

PRIMARY REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Radiological Contaminants ¹													
		City of Leesburg			East (Mall)			East (Airport)					
CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCL VIOLATION (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF RESULTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	No	6/08	2.2	NA	1/08	5.0	NA	6/08	2.4	NA	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 [Combined Radium] (pCi/L)	No	6/08	1.3	NA	6/08	1.0	NA	6/08	2.0	NA	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants													
Barium (ppm)	No	1/08	0.0127	NA	1/08	0.009	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppb)	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1/08	0.9	NA	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Fluoride (ppm)	No	1/08	0.149	NA	1/08	0.16	NA	1/08	0.13	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	No	1/08	6.34	NA	1/08	5.40	NA	1/08	5.280	NA	NA	160	Salt water intrusion; leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products ²		
City of Leesburg	East (Mall)	East (Airport)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	MCL Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	Level Detected	Range of Results	Date of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	Level Detected	Range of Results	Date of Sampling (Mo./Yr.)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLg or [MRDLg]	MCL or [MRDL]	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	No	1/09–12/09	1.36	1.04–1.63	1/09–12/09	1.46	1.15–1.94	1/09–12/09	1.46	1.15–1.94	[4]	[4.0]	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) [HAA5] (ppb)	No	7/09	20.2	NA	10/09	10.6	NA	7/08	12.7	NA	NA	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No	7/09	12.9	NA	10/08	19.45	NA	7/08	12.9	NA	NA	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap water samples were collected from sites throughout the community)	
City of Leesburg	East (Mall) & East (Airport)

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	AL EXCEEDED (YES/NO)	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	90TH PERCENTILE RESULT	NO. OF SAMPLING SITES EXCEEDING THE AL	MCLG	AL (ACTION LEVEL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper [tap water] (ppm)	No	7/08	0.936	0	7/08	0.885	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead [tap water] (ppb)	No	7/08	4.9	0	7/08	3.8	0	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS (CITY OF LEESBURG)³

CONTAMINANT AND UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	DATE OF SAMPLING (MO./YR.)	AVERAGE RESULT	RANGE OF RESULTS
1,2,4-Trimethyl-5-nitrobenzene (S)	9/09	5.09%	70%–130%
1,3,5-Trimethyl-2-nitrobenzene (S)	9/09	5.01%	70%–130%
1,3-Dimethyl-2-nitrobenzene (S)	9/09	3.83%	70%–130%
Nitrobenzene-d5 (S)	9/09	4.57%	70%–130%
Perylene-d12 (S)	9/09	4.2%	70%–130%
Triphenyl phosphate (S)	9/09	4.69%	70%–130%

¹Results in the Level Detected column for radiological and inorganic contaminants are the highest average at any of the sampling points or the highest detected level at any sampling point, depending on the sampling frequency.

²For chlorine, the level detected is the the highest running annual average (RAA), computed quarterly, of monthly averages of all samples collected. For haloacetic acids or TTHM, the level detected is the highest RAA, computed quarterly, of quarterly averages of all samples collected if the system is monitoring quarterly or is the average of all samples taken during the year if the system monitors less frequently than quarterly. Range of Results is the range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) for all monitoring locations, including Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) results as well as Stage 1 compliance results.

³We have been monitoring for unregulated contaminants (UCs) as part of a study to help the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) determine the occurrence in drinking water of UCs and whether or not these contaminants need to be regulated. At present, no health standards have been established for UCs. However, we are required to publish the analytical results of our UC monitoring in our annual water quality report. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

IDSE (Initial Distribution System Evaluation): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection By-products Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).